FROM THE INTERIM EDITOR'S DESK

As many of you have probably gathered, this is a sad time for the Biology Unit. We lost our editor when Jack Congrove died unexpectedly in April (see page 76 for his obituary). Jack sent a message March 21, alerting our Unit President and Secretary that he was about to enter the hospital for tests to determine the extent of a pancreatic tumor. He went home after outpatient surgery, but had to return to the emergency room. His sister and nephew came from Ohio to be with him, and she kept me apprised of the prognosis each day.

Jack had been editing Biophilately since 2010, when he took over from Alan Hanks. In order to put out a journal for June, I agreed to be an interim editor. I do not want to continue doing this job, because I am already serving as Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster and Associate Editor for Botany.

I am pleading desperately for someone in the Study Unit to take over as editor.

So what does the position involve? There are associate editors who put together the new issue lists. Jack used to go over these lists very carefully and point out any typos or errors. When the journal is submitted for a philatelic literature competition, the major criticism is that there are not enough original articles. So the editor needs to solicit additional articles for publication. They could be reprints from other journals, or from past issues of Biophilately.The editor is not responsible for publishing Biophilately. Dick Roman, as our publisher since 2011, has been responsible for printing and mailing the journal from a pdf file sent by the editor. We are currently investigating a printer in Minnesota as a publisher.

Helpful skills are working with publishing software, manipulating images and pdf files.

Please contact me at chris-dahle@biophilately.org if you are at all interested in taking over this most important position for our Study Unit. We can help out with anyone getting started. You don't have to be a resident of the United States. Our Associate Editor for Mammals is in the U.K., for Paleontology in Germany and a Co-editor for Entomology is in Angola. It is easy to electronically transfer files, even the large ones we generate for the journal.

Our long-time Associate Editor for marine Invertebrates decided recently to pursue other interests. We are still looking for a replacement. If there is a Microbiologist in our membership, we would appreciate your expertise in serving as our Associate Editor for Microbiology.

Jack innovated when he took over as editor. He introduced the colored cover and called for a column on New Plants. He advocated for a Microbiology new issues list. We will miss his enthusiasm and expertise greatly.

Christopher Dahle BU 1269

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